Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The area known as Fort Pierre has a long and rich history. For hundreds of years before the arrival of European explorers, it was inhabited by Mandans, Arikara, and the Lakota and Dakota. In 1743, the Verendrye brothers buried a lead plate for King Louis XV, claiming the area for France. In 1804, Lewis & Clark had a tense but peaceful encounter with Chief Black Buffalo and his Council at the mouth of Bad River; and,

Whereas, No other permanently occupied European settlement was established sooner in what is today South Dakota; and,

Whereas, No other area saw such a concentration of fur-trading posts, including Fort LaFramboise in 1817, the Columbia Fur Company/American Fur Company's Fort Tecumseh in 1822 and, in 1832, the fort that replaced Fort Tecumseh, Fort Pierre Chouteau, for which the town of Fort Pierre is named; and,

Whereas, With the arrival of steamboats and the railroad, Fort Pierre became the hub of unprecedented trading and shipping activity, supplying Montana, Idaho, and Black Hills Gold Rush camps and employing hundreds of "bull trains" to transport freight between Fort Pierre and Deadwood and other destinations; and,

Whereas, The days of the open range and cowboys, followed by the arrival of settlers and homesteaders needing daily necessities, enabled Fort Pierre to become the center of commerce; and,

Whereas, The City of Fort Pierre was incorporated in 1890 and continues to be a great place to live, work, play, and raise a family; and,

Whereas, Fort Pierre has been designated by a noted historian as "South Dakota's most historic spot," and Fort Pierre's 200th birthday is South Dakota's first ever bicentennial event, and as such, is significant to the entire state:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 2017 as

FORT PIERRE BICENTENNIAL MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixteenth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State